

**Senate Community Affairs Committee**  
**ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**  
**Social Services Portfolio**  
**2014-15 Budget Estimates Hearings**

**Outcome Number: 3**

**Question No: 400**

**Topic: Aged Care - Access and Information**

**Hansard Page: Written**

**Senator Polley** asked:

Please provide details of the development and trial of assessment framework and tools for the aged care sector (p112, DSS Portfolio Budget Statement), including (but not limited to):

- Where the trial is occurring?
- What does it entail?
- Who is involved?
- What are the terms of reference / purpose and goals?
- What outcomes have been achieved to date?
- What impact will this have for the delivery of aged care services?

**Answer:**

The Centre for Health Service Development (CHSD) was engaged to develop and validate an Assessment Framework and Tool for Aged Care. The trials occurred in the Australian Capital Territory, New South Wales, Victoria, South Australia and Tasmania and concluded in May 2013.

Building on the Assessment Tool developed by CHSD, the Department undertook an exercise to compare assessment approaches across the country. This included looking at the existing assessment tools and processes and involved significant engagement with State and Territory Governments and other sector stakeholders.

The work on the Assessment Framework and Tool for Aged Care has been to develop a consistent assessment process to determine care needs with a focus on adopting a person centred, goal oriented reablement approach.

The trial of the tool has informed the development of the National Screening and Assessment Form (NSAF). The NSAF builds on the results of the field trials of the Assessment Framework and Tool for Aged Care and the benefits of the current approaches.